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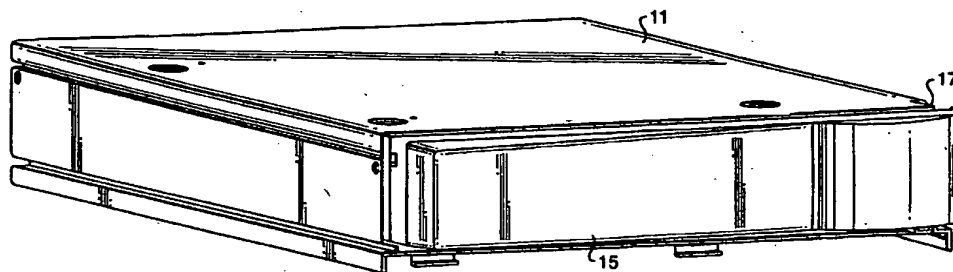
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(54) Title: A DEVICE FOR HOLDING A COLUMN OR CARTRIDGE IN PROXIMITY TO A DETECTOR AND METHODS OF USING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: Embodiments of the present invention are directed to methods and devices for minimizing band spreading of compositions separated by chromatographic processes. One embodiment of the present invention features a device (11) for holding a separation column or cartridge. The device (11) includes a housing (15) having a chamber for receiving one or more columns or cartridges. The columns and cartridges have an inlet for receiving fluid and an outlet for discharging fluid and a column axis corresponding generally with the flow of fluid from the inlet to the outlet. The columns and cartridges are suitable for performing separations in which a constant temperature is desirable. The housing (15) further includes a heating element for maintaining said chamber at a constant temperature. The device (11) further includes positioning means (17) for placing the column and cartridge outlet in proximity to a detector.

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